

Madame Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Nadine Sullivan and I live in the Fort Belknap Indian Community.

The Personal Assistance Services Program is a vital program for Medicaid eligible individuals during post hospitalization because the Fort Belknap Indian Community does not have access to Home Health Services. The Personal Assistance Services Program provides the duties related to the activities of daily living that would otherwise be neglected due to lack of service in this area which could lead to health problems related to unsanitary conditions.

The Fort Belknap Personal Care Attendants also provide daily human contact for those individuals who live in remote areas. (up to 12 miles from the nearest community) Daily contact from the personal care attendants helps those individuals who need help in other areas of public assistance as referrals can be made through the provider to the appropriate agency.

I would like to thank the committee for continued support in funding the Community Services Bureau and the Senior & Long Term Care division.